Funds for rural roads by NABARD

997. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development proposes to sanction Rs. 16,000 crores for rural roads, a component of Bharat Nirman; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, indicating the amount of funds that would be provided to the Orissa for development of roads and other infrastructure under this plan head?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Memorandum of Agreement among Government of India (Ministry of Rural Development), National Rural Roads Development Agency (NRRDA) and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has been signed on 27th September, 2007, according to which NABARD has agreed to provide a loan of Rs. 16,000 crore through a separate window under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) for funding Rural Roads component of Bharat Nirman. Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) is a demand driven programme. Release of funds to the States is governed in accordance with Para 19 of the PMGSY Programme Guidelines, according to which funds for the cleared projects will be made available to the State Rural Roads Development Agency (SRRDA) in two installments. The 1st installment amounting to 50% of the cleared value of projects, (or annual allocation which ever is lower) shall be released subject to fulfilment of conditions, if any, stipulated earlier. Further, release would be subject to utilisation of 60% of the available funds and completion of at least 80% of the road works awarded in the year previous to the preceding year and 100% of the awarded works of all the years preceding that year and-fulfilment of other conditions, if any, stipulated while releasing the previous installment.

Development of rural road in backward States under Bharat Nirman

998. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the status of implementation of the Centre's flagship programme "Bharat Nirman" relating to rural road development, especially in the backward States i.e. Bihar, Assam, Orissa, Jharkhand;

(b) whether the pace of its implementation is sluggish in the above regions;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether this project aims at providing all weather connectivity to around 66,802 habitations with 1.46 lakh km. of rural roads by 2009; and

(e) if so, the action plan of the Centre to help the above States to speed up its implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) to (c) Progress made under rural roads component of Bharat Nirman for providing connectivity to the targeted habitations in Bihar, Assam, Orissa and Jharkhand have been given in Statement *(see* below).

(d) Yes, Sir.